

30 Däyä Präyër Öuidë 2025 Fär thë Jälämic Wärld

LOVING MUSLIMS
THROUGH PRAYER



Tählë Üf Cäntëntä



Welconie	O I
Introduction	03
What is Ramadan	04
The Purpose of Fasting	05
How we should Pray?	06
Arabs	07
Arains	09
Arghons	10
Ansaris	12
Awans	13
Bagbhans	15
Baltis	17
Behnas	19
Bhatiaras	21
Bhistis	22
Bisatis	24
Chhipas	26
Chaush or Chaus	27

Deccanis	29
Dards	31
Dhobis	33
Ghosis	35
Gurjars or Gujjars	36
Iraqi Biradaris	38
Jats	40
Khanzadas	42
Kashmiris	44
Kunjras	46
Malkanas	47
Manihars	49
Mappilas	50
Rowthers	52
Meos	54
Mughals	56
Pathans	58



Inträductiär



Dearly beloved of the Lord!

It gives me a great pleasure to welcome you to this Prayer Guide for the Neighbours of India. Previously, every year we used to translate and print 30 days Prayer guide, prepared by '30 Days International', which coincides with the Ramadan fasting days of Neighbours. After the fasting days the guide is not used anymore. Besides we have come to know that the '30 days International' has split into two organisation and that two different guides are prepared by them. We have also found that the quality of the content of the guide has been compromised. Hence some of the leaders met together and decided not to print the guides prepared by the '30 Days International' organisations. Instead, an India Centric prayer guide will be prepared to pray for the Indian Neighbours. This guide can be used not only during Ramadan fasting but throughout the year. This year's guide consists of the information about 30 of the Indian Neighbours followed by Prayer Points to pray for them. This is our First edition to be followed by subsequent editions containing details of the remaining Indian Neighbours. Kindly make use of the Guide and circulate it widely to the larger body of Christ. Blessings!!!



What is Ramadan?



Islam is a worldwide religion comprised of 200 crore Muslims with varied culture and practices. Inside Islam itself there is so many different traditions and habits. Like Judaism and Christianity, there may be very many understanding of Muslim's faith and practices.

Therefore it is important that we understand Muslims and what their beliefs are. We should not imagine that by watching News and reading the internet we have understood them. Every Muslim like every Christian is engaged in a personal faith journey. This affects his family, culture and experiences.

Majority of the Muslims say that if you want to live a good life according to Islam it is important that you follow the Five Pillars of Islam.

What are these Five Pillars?

- Shahda Confession of Islamic faith with a whole heart
- Salat Praying in the right way Five times a day
- Zahat Almsgiving to the poor and those who are in need
- Sawm Fasting during the month of Ramadan
- Haj......- Pilgrimage to Mecca.



The Purpase Of Fasting?



Sawm is the Arabic word for Fasting. The meaning of this word is keeping away. In Ramadan fasting one should not only keep away from food and water but also from evil actions, thoughts and words. As per the tradition Quran was revealed to Mohammed during Ramadan. To denote this important event Muslims fast from Sun rise to Sun set. Fasting is very hard one. No food, no drinks or water. Smoking and sexual relation are to be avoided. Besides Muslims should take extra care to avoid unlawful and unclean things. Observing Fasting like this expresses one's submission to a sincere fasting. This is the time for self control, cleansing of body and soul to worship God with full concentration.

Throughout Ramadan, families and friends come together during evenings and nights to share the food and relations. Muslims are called to use this month to examine their lives and faith, reconcile with one another, strengthen the relationship with family and friends and try to be a good human being.



Haw Skauld We Pray?



We believe that Jesus is the Saviour of the world, reconciling all people to God.

John 14:6, Acts 4:12, 2 Corinthians 5:18,19

Every human being is made in the image of God according to and thus has inestimable worth and dignity.

Genesis 1:26-28

God loves Muslims and does not want any to perish

1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter3:9, John 3:16

As followers of Christ, we take Jesus' strong exhortation to love God and love our neighbour very seriously. Muslims are our neighbours and one way we love them is praying blessings on them, their families, and communities.

Matthew 22:37-39

Jesus commands us to love everyone - even those who hurt us - and to pray for them.

Matthew 5:44

Our intercession for Muslims needs to be motivated by love. Our model is Jesus – who while we were yet sinners, loved and died for us.

Romans 5:8

As we receive God's love for us He gives us His love for all others and enables us to fulfil the great commandment to love God and love our neighbour. We are not called to judge, fear, hate or relate to Muslims in any way that is counter to the "Kingdom of God". We are simply to love, live as Christ commanded us, pray, and trust God by His Holy Spirit to bring people to Himself in Christ.

Galations 5:22,23; John 6:44; 12:32; 16:18, 1 Corinthians 13.

May your prayers be led by the love of Christ and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as you participate in this year's Prayer for the Muslim world.



30 Days Prayer Guide Für India



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1. ARABS

Arab Muslims in India have a long and historically rich presence that dates back to the early centuries of Islam. Arab traders first arrived on the western coast of India, particularly in the region of Kerala, around the 7th century, long before Islamic conquests in India. These traders established connections with local Indian communities, leading to cultural exchanges and the spread of Islam.

As time passed, several Arab Muslims settled along India's coastal regions, such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, and the Malabar Coast. Some married into local communities, creating unique blends of Arab and Indian cultural and religious practices.



This fusion of traditions contributed to the diversity of Indian Islam, with the influence of Arab culture seen in language, architecture, art, and religious practices, especially in cities like Kozhikode and Mumbai, which had flourishing trade routes.

Throughout history, India also saw Arab scholars, Sufi saints, and even travelers who contributed to religious, educational, and social life. Prominent Arab-descended Muslim communities in India today include the Konkani Muslims, Labbay Muslims, and the Māppila Muslims, who are distinct due to their cultural heritage but have integrated into the broader Indian Muslim identity.

Pray for

- The salvation of Konkani Muslims, , Labbay Muslims, and the Mappila Muslims.
- The Arab Muslims who settled in Gujarat, Maharashtra, and the Malabar Coast to be reached with the Good News.
- The Churches in these States to be burdened by the Lord to reach the Arab Muslims.







2. ARAINS

The Arain Muslims of India are a historically agricultural community, primarily from the Punjab region. Known for their farming expertise, the Arain Muslims traditionally cultivated land along the fertile plains of Punjab, where they played a vital role in developing agriculture, particularly around river systems. Many Arain Muslim families were involved in growing crops such as wheat, sugarcane, and vegetables.

The origins of the Arain community are debated; some suggest Arab ancestry linked to early Muslim settlers in South Asia, while others believe they have indigenous roots in the Punjab region. Over time, Arains became known for their strong community networks, which helped them establish successful agricultural and, later, business practices.

During the partition of India in 1947, a significant number of Arains migrated to Pakistan, while those who remained in India continued to preserve their cultural heritage. In Punjab and other areas of India, they remain a relatively small but active community, with members now involved in diverse professions beyond agriculture, including business, education and government services.



The Arains are known for their values of community solidarity, family ties and emphasis on education and professional advancement contributing to a legacy resilience and adaptability.



Pray for

- The salvation of Community leaders of Arains who can influence the whole community.
- The believing businessmen, educationists and those in Govt. services catch the vision of reaching the Arains.
- The Churches in Punjab will be burdened to reach the Arain Muslims with the Gospel.



3. ARGHONS

The Arghon Muslims are an ethnic community found primarily in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir, India, and parts of Tibet. They are of mixed Central Asian (Turkic-Mongol) and Tibetan descent, with a unique cultural and religious heritage.



The origins of the Arghons trace back to the 16th and 17th centuries, when traders from Central Asia, particularly Yarkand (in modern-day Xinjiang, China), married local Ladakhi women. This blend created the Arghon identity, which combines Central Asian and Tibetan influences.

Arghons are traditionally Sunni Muslims and have retained aspects of their Central Asian ancestry, including certain customs, dress, and sometimes even elements of language. They are distinct from other Muslim groups in Ladakh due to these cultural influences. Historically, the Arghons were involved in trade, especially the silk trade routes.

Pray for

- The Arghon traders should have an opportunity to meet believing businessmen and hear the Good News alteast once in their life time.
- New Missions to reach the neighbours to spring up in the region as Terrorism has been reduced to a great extent.
- The Churches and Missions working in the State will reach out to the Arghons.







4. ANSARIS

The Ansaris are a Muslim community (approximately 1 crore) in India known for their traditional association with weaving and textile work, particularly in cities like Varanasi, Mau and other parts of U.P and Bihar. Their silk sarees are famous throughout India. Their name, "Ansari" means "supporter" or "helper" in Arabic referring to the Ansar – the early Muslims of Medina who supported Prophet Mohammed and his followers when they migrated from Mecca.

Historically, Ansaris in India are said to have ancestry that traces back to these early supporters or to subsequent Arab or Persian settlers. They have been skilled artisans particularly in weaving and have played a signicant role in India textile industry especially in silk and handloom weaving. Over time Ansaris have diversified across various trades and professions but still maintain a cultural and historical identity connected to the weaving heritage.





As a community Ansaris follow a mix of cultural traditions that reflect both Islamic and local Indian influences. Today they are recognized as a backward class which provides them access to affirmative action programs in education and employment to improve social economic mobility. The community is active in politics with some members advocating for improved social and economic opportunities.

Pray for

- Ansaris to come to the saving knowledge of Lord Jesus Christ who has weaved them in His image and become His strong supporters.
- BAM (Business as Mission) groups to engage this business community and lead them to Christ.
- The Churches in U.P shall have a strong influence on the Ansaris to become followers of Lord Jesus.



5. AWANS

The Āwān Muslims are a prominent community in the northern regions of the Indian subcontinent, particularly in Punjab, where they have a significant presence in both India and Pakistan.



The Āwāns trace their lineage to Arab origins, with many claiming descent from Qutb Shah, an Arab general and a descendant of the Prophet Muhammad's family. This ancestry has given the Āwāns a respected status, often associating them with the traditional warrior and landowning classes.



Historically, the Āwān community was involved in agriculture, primarily as landowners, particularly in the fertile plains and mountainous areas of Punjab. Āwāns are also known for their role as soldiers and have a strong martial tradition; they were recruited into British colonial military regiments and continue to have a presence in the military forces of Pakistan and India.

Although many Āwāns have retained their agricultural roots, modern Āwāns are involved in a wide array of professions, including business, politics, education, and government services. The community is respected for its commitment to education and social advancement, and its members have contributed significantly to cultural, social, and economic spheres in their regions.

PRAY FOR

- Awan Muslims who associate themselves as warrior classes may become warriors for Christ fighting against Satan, Sin and Self.
 - More workers to be sent by the Lord of harvest to reach this potential group with the Good News.
 - The Churches in Punjab would be able to identify the Āwāns and engage them.







BĀGHBĀN MUSLIMS

The Bāghbān Muslims, also known as "Mālīs" in some regions, are a community primarily associated with horticulture and gardening in India. The term "Bāghbān" comes from Persian, where "Bāgh" means "garden" and "bān" means "keeper," reflecting their traditional occupation as gardeners, fruit and vegetable cultivators, and caretakers of orchards. They have a long-standing reputation for expertise in horticulture, agriculture, and flower cultivation, often working as caretakers of estates, nurseries, and gardens.

Historically, the Bāghbāns settled in various parts of North India, especially in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. Over time, some Bāghbāns diversified into related trades, including selling produce and managing small businesses in urban markets. While they have traditionally belonged to a lower economic class, many Bāghbāns today are committed to education and socio-economic advancement, with increasing numbers pursuing careers in business, government services, and other professional fields.



The Bāghbān community has a distinct cultural identity with customs and traditions that reflect a mix of local and Islamic influences. They are often known for close-knit family structures and community solidarity, with a focus on maintaining cultural practices. In modern India, they continue to play a vital role in the agricultural sector, contributing to local markets and the economy while increasingly integrating into urban life.

PRAY FOR

- In Rev.5:9 we read of the song which says that Lord Jesus Christ has purchased in His blood persons
 from every tribe and language and people and nation. Let Bāghbāns too be found in that mosaic
 of nations in the kingdom of God.
- Community leaders of Baghbans that they may come to the saving knowledge of Lord Jesus Christ and lead their community also to Christ.
- North Indian organizations working among neighbours would identify the Baghbans and engage them.



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7. BALTĪ MUSLIMS

The Balfi Muslims are an ethnic group primarily residing in the Baltistan region of Gilgit-Baltistan (in Pakistan) and parts of Ladakh (in India). The Balti people have Tibetan roots and speak Balti, a Tibetic language, though over centuries, they have integrated elements of Persian, Urdu, and Arabic into their culture due to religious and cultural exchanges. Islam was introduced to the Baltis around the 14th century, largely through Persian and Central Asian missionaries, and most Balti Muslims follow Shia Islam, particularly the Twelver Shia sect, although there are also Sunni and Nūrbakshi (a Sufi sect) communities among them.

Baltistan is a mountainous and remote area, historically isolated but known for its unique blend of Tibetan and Islamic traditions. The Balti culture includes Tibetan-style art, music, and festivals, while Islamic values deeply influence social and religious life. Traditional attire, architecture and festivals reflect a fusion of Tibetan heritage and Islamic beliefs.



Today, Balti Muslims are known for their resilience, particularly in high altitude living, as they inhabit some of the highest villages. Many are involved in agriculture, pastoralism and increasingly tourism as the natural beauty of Baltistan attracts visitors.



The Baltī community has a strong emphasis on education and modernization, with the growing number involved in government services, trade and professional sectors both in Pakistan and India.

They continue to preserve their unique cultural heritage while integrating into broader socio-economic landscape of the region.

PRAY FOR

- As Baltī Muslims are known for their resilience may the Lord Jesus Christ help them to show the same resilience to know and follow Him.
- God to raise workers from Kashmir and other mountainous regions to go and reach the Baltis.
- Businessmen and Professionals to engage the Baltis and lead them to Christ.







8. BEHNA MUSLIMS

The Behna Muslims are a community primarily found in North India, especially in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and parts of Madhya Pradesh. Traditionally, the Behna community was involved in cotton ginning, weaving, and thread-making, and some were also engaged in washing clothes or working as dyers. The name "Behna" is believed to have originated from these occupational associations, as they were historically involved in fabric and textile-related trades.

As the textile industry changed and modernized, many Behnas moved away from their traditional occupations and diversified into other trades and professions, including small business ownership, agriculture, and service sectors. Despite these changes, they often retain a strong sense of community identity and are recognized as a distinct social group within the broader Muslim population of North India. The Behna community practices Sunni Islam and follows a mix of cultural traditions reflecting local influences.



Like other communities in India, Behnas have also been active in pursuing educational and economic opportunities, seeking upward social mobility through government programs and affirmative action initiatives. As a traditionally marginalized group, they have often faced socio-economic challenges but are increasingly integrating into urban and modern sectors while maintaining their cultural roots.

PRAY FOR

- Their spiritual eyes being opened (2 Cor.4:4), Behna Muslims may see the light of the glorious Gospel and be saved.
- More and more workers to be sent to reach the Behna Muslims with the Gospel.
- The Churches in U.P, Bihar and M.P may use the modern technnologies to reach the Behnas as they actively pursue educational and economic opportunities.



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9. BHATIARA MUSLIMS

The Bhatiara Muslims are a community historically associated with the occupation of inn keeping and hospitality, primarily found in North India, particularly in states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Delhi. The term "Bhatiara" comes from the Hindi and Urdu languages, meaning "innkeeper" or "hotelier," referring to their traditional work in operating small roadside inns, providing food, shelter, and services to travellers. Historically, these inns served a vital role along trade routes, offering rest stops for travelers, merchants, and caravans.

The Bhatiara Muslims primarily follow Sunni Islam and maintain a close-knit community structure with a focus on cultural preservation. They often have distinct customs and traditions passed down through generations, blending local and Islamic influences. Though the community has historically faced socio-economic challenges, there has been an increasing focus on education and socio-economic upliftment among Bhatiaras, with more community members pursuing careers in diverse fields.

While their traditional role as innkeepers has changed with modern hospitality industries, many Bhatiaras have diversified their occupations.



PRAY FOR



- Bhatiaras who are known for their hospitality may find the Bread of Life (John 6:35) who can satisfy both their physical as well as spiritual needs.
- The Churches and believers of U.P. Bihar and Delhi will be burdened to reach the Bhatiara Muslims.
- The Missions involved in reaching the Bhatiaras may be successful.



10. BHISTĪS

• The Bhistī Muslims are a community historically associated with providing water services, primarily found in North India, including states like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, and West Bengal. The word "Bhistī" is derived from the Persian word "behisht," meaning "paradise" or "heaven," as the provision of water was seen as a life- giving and honorable service. Traditionally, Bhistīs carried leather water bags, known as "mashq," and supplied water to households, markets, construction sites, and travelers, especially in the pre-modern era when piped water was unavailable.



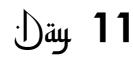
Bhistīs are primarily Sunni Muslims, and their community is known for being hard-working, with a strong sense of pride in their traditional occupation. Over time, with the advent of modern plumbing and water supply systems, their role has diminished, and many Bhistīs have shifted to other forms of labor, small businesses, or occupations in urban centers.

The Bhistī community maintains distinct customs and a strong cultural identity, with a mix of Islamic and regional influences. They often live in close-knit communities and are proud of their heritage and history, which includes stories of their service in times of war and during historical events. Today, Bhistīs are increasingly focusing on education and pursuing modern career paths, while some continue to honor their traditional role in ceremonial or cultural settings.

PRAY FOR

- Bhistīs who have been water suppliers may find the Living Water who can satisfy their spiritual thirst.
- The Lord of the harvest to raise labourers to harvest the Bhistīs into His kingdom.
- The Churches and believers in North India would be burdened to identify this unreached people and take efforts to reach them.



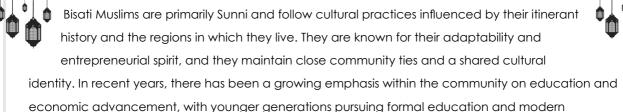




11. BISĀTĪS

The Bisati Muslims are a community traditionally known for their work as small scale traders and peddlers in North India especially in states like U.P., Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab. The name 'Bisati' is thought to derive from the Arabic or Persian word bisat meaning 'goods' or 'merchandise' which reflects their historical occupation as vendors selling items such as cloth, household goods, cosmetics and trinklets. They often travelled from village to village with their wares earning a reputation for being skilled in sales and trade.

While the Bisati community was originally nomadic or semi-nomadic, many Bisatis have since settled in urban and rural areas, integrating into local economies and expanding their trade businesses. Today, some members of the Bisati community have moved into diverse professions, including retail, small businesses, and service sectors, though many still work as traders and merchants.



PRAY FOR

career paths while retaining their cultural heritage.

- The salvation of Bisati Muslims. Let them have an opportunity to hear the Good News at least once.
- Missions working among neighbours would adopt this group and engage them.
- The Churches in North India especially U.P., Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab would be willing to share the Good News to Bisatis.







12. CHHIPA MUSLIMS

The Chhipa also spelled Chippa, are a Muslim community in South Asia, primarily found in India and Pakistan. They have historically been associated with textile printing and dyeing especially in Gujarat and Rajasthan. Their traditional occupation, often referred to as Chhipa or chhapa, involves block printing, dyeing and related textile crafts, which are highly regarded art forms in Indian and Pakistani culture.

Chhipa Muslims typically speak regional languages like Gujarati, Sindhi, Urdu and Rajasthani, and they are Sunni Muslims, though their customs may blend Islamic practices with local cultural elements. Over time many have diversified into other fields, though some still maintain their heritage in textile work.

Like many artisan communities, Chhipas have faced challenges in preserving their traditional craft due to industrialization and changing economic conditions. However the community continues to be respected for its contribution to South Asia's rich textile heritage.



PRAY FOR



- Chhipa Muslims have an opportunity to hear about the Master weaver Jesus Christ and come to the saving knowledge.
- The BAMers to engage this trading community and lead them to Christ (BAM = Business as Mission)
- Gujarati, Sindhi, Urdu and Rajasthani speaking Christians to identify Chhipa Muslims and share the Good News.



13. CHAUSH OR CHAUS MUSLIMS

The Chaush or chaus are a community who are of Hadhrami Arab descent. They are found in
the Deccan region of India. The chaush or chaus are brought from Yemen to work in the former
Hyderabad State as military men for the Nizams. It is said that especially when it came to safe
guarding his family, the 7th Nizam had absolute trust on these Arab soldiers.



They are most concentrated in Marathwada, Telegana and Hyderabad-Karnataka regions and most of their population concentrated in the neighbourhoods of Barkas in Hyderabad, Shasha Mahallah in Karimnagar. Al-Tamash in Aurangabad. They also live in Nizamabad, Mahabubnagar and Warangal.

The founders of both Qu'aiti and Kathiri States in Hathramawi had previously served as jemadars in Hyderabad.

Among the cultural contributions of the Chaush to India are Marfa music and dance and Hyderabadi haleem which are culturally important to Hyderabad Muslims and seen at almost all wedding ceremonies.

PRAY FOR

- Chaush Muslims who are known as trust worthy soldiers may find the most faithful Captain Lord
 Jesus Christ as their personal saviour.
- The Churches of Deccan region may be envisioned to reach these unreached Chaush Muslims.
- More workers to be raised to work among them.







14. DECCANI MUSLIMS

The Deccanis or Deccani people are an indo-Aryan ethno-religious community of Deccani speaking Muslims who inhabit or are from the Deccan region of South India. The population of Deccanis is approximately 117 lakhs. The community traces its origin to the shifting of the Delhi Sultanate's capital from Delhi to Daulatabad in 1327 during the reign of Muhammed Bin Tughluq. Further ancestry can also be traced from immigrant Muslims referred to as Afaqis, also known as Pardesis who came from Central Asia, Iraq and Iran and had settled in Deccan region during the Bahmani Sultanate (1347).

The migration of Muslim-Hindavi -speaking people to Deccan and intermarriage with the local Hindus who converted to Islam, led to the creation of a new community of Hindustani-speaking Muslims known as Deccani who would play an important role in the politics of the Deccan. Their language, Deccani emerged as a language of linguistic prestige and culture during the Bahmani Sultanate, further evolving in the Deccan Sultanates.



Following the demise of the Bahmanis, the Deccan Sultanate period marked a golden age for Deccani culture, notably in the arts, language, and architecture. The Deccani people form significant minorities in the Deccan, including the Maharashtran regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha, and the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka (except Tulu Nadu) and northern Tamil Nadu. They form a majority in the old cities of Hyderabad and Aurangabad. After the Partition of India and the annexation of Hyderabad, large diaspora communities formed outside the Deccan, especially in Pakistan, where they make up a significant portion of the Urdu speaking minority, the Muhajirs.

The Deccani people are further divided into various groups that can broadly be lumped into three: the Hyderabadis (from Hyderabad State); Mysoris (from Mysore state, including Bangalore), and Madrasis (from Madras state, including Kurnool, Nellore, Guntur and Chennai). Deccani is the mother tongue of most Muslims in the states of Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, and it is spoken by a section of Muslims in Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



PRAY FOR



- The Deccanis who are spread in different States and are influential may find Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour and come in large groups to Him.
- New methods to be developed to reach the various groups of Deccani Muslims.
- The veil in their hearts and faces of the Muslim women and children may be removed to see the glorious Gospel.



15. DARD MUSLIMS

"Dard Muslims" likely refers to the Dardic-speaking Muslim communities from the northern regions of South Asia, primarily in parts of Pakistan and India, including areas like Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and parts of Jammu and Kashmir. The term "Dardic" relates to a group of Indo-Aryan languages spoken by the Dard people, which include languages like Shina, Kashmiri, and Khowar, among others.

Dard Muslims are diverse in terms of language and culture, and they have rich traditions that combine both Islamic practices and unique cultural elements native to their mountainous homeland. These communities often live in isolated valleys, and their culture reflects a blend of ancient customs with more recent Islamic influences. Significant populations of Dardicspeaking Muslims are concentrated in Jammu and Kashmir, primarily among communities that speak

The largest Dardic-speaking group in India is the Kashmiri-speaking population, with around 7 million native speakers (many of whom are Muslim) concentrated mostly in the Kashmir Valley.

Other Dardic-speaking groups, like the Shina and Brokskat speakers, are much smaller and are mainly located in regions like Ladakh and certain parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

PRAY FOR

languages such as Kashmiri, Shina, and Brokskat.

- The Dardic people who live in the beautiful valleys of Kashmir may find the Creator God who loves beauty.
- The workers among the Dardic Muslims whose feet are beautiful bringing the good news.
- The Churches in Jammu Kashmir will catch the vision of reaching the Dardic Muslims who are their neighbours.



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16. DHOBĪS

The Dhobī Muslim community in India is a sub group within the broader Dhobi caste, traditionally associated with washing clothes and other laundry related work. Dhobi Muslims share a distinct identity, often shaped by their profession and Islamic faith. They practice Islam observing Islamic customs, festivals and rituals while also blending some regional cultural traditions into their lives.

The overall Dhobi community in India (including Hindus, Muslims, and other religious groups) is estimated to number several million, with a significant presence in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal. A substantial portion of these are Muslim, particularly in states with high Muslim population, though no exact statistics specify the number of Dhobi Muslims.

Dhobi Muslims are primarily concentrated in northern and eastern India, especially in states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Jharkhand.





Smaller groups are also present in Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Telangana. Their traditional occupation often places them in lower-income brackets, though education and employment diversification have helped some achieve upward mobility. Many have diversified into other occupations including small businesses, skilled labour and public service roles.

PRAY FOR

- The Dhobi Muslims will come to know the efficacy of the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse them from all their sins and surrender their lives to Him.
- Believers from the Dhobi community may be burdened by the Lord to reach this unreached Dhobi
 Muslims.
- The Churches of North India will catch the vision of reaching the Dhobi Muslims.







17. GHOSI MUSLIMS

- Ghosi Muslims are a community in India traditionally associated with dairy farming, cattle herding
 and agriculture. They are found predominantly in U.P., M.P., and other parts of North India. Ghosi
 Muslims are believed to have originally been a Hindu community that converted to Islam centuries
 ago, though they retained some cultural practices linked to their Hindu heritage. Their name Ghosi
 is thought to derive from 'ghos' which means cattle or herding.
- The Ghosi community has a strong sense of social cohesion and is organized around family and kinship ties. Their religious practices are aligned with mainstream Sunni Islam but certain practices are unique to the community due to their heritage. The community, like many other rural Muslim communities in India faces socio-economic challenges such as limited access to education, healthcare and employment. Many younger Ghosi Muslims are seeking educational and professional opportunities.





PRAY FOR

- Ghosi Muslims would find the good shepherd Jesus Christ who has laid His life for them.
- The Lord of harvest to raise more workers to reach the unreached Ghosi Muslims.
- Churches in U.P and M.P. may receive the vision from God to reach the Ghosi Muslims with the Gospel.



18. GURJARS OR GUJJARS

Gurjar Muslims or Muslim Gujjars are a prominent ethnic and social group found primarily in India, Pakistan and parts of Afghanistan. Historically Gurjars are known for their warrior and pastoral heritage and their presence dates back centuries in the Indian subcontinent.





Gurjar Muslims are mostly found in regions such as Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat. While their religious beliefs align with Islam, Gurjar Muslims often retain many cultural traditions and practices unique to their heritage. This blend of culture often emphasizes family ties, traditional customs and linguistic traits associated with the broader Gurjar community.

Conversion of many Gurjars to Islam took place over several centuries influenced by political changes, Sufi movements, and regional dynamics. Despite their conversion, many maintain historical pride in their lineage and cultural identity.

Traditionally many Gurjars were agriculturists, herders and pastoralists. Today they engage in various professions including agriculture, trade, business and government services. They value community solidarity and maintain a strong sense of identity based on their shared history and heritage.





- Gurjars who take pride in their heritage as warriors and pastors may find their true Warrior and Shepherd in Jesus Christ.
- The missions working among Gurjars that they may identify the Community leader and lead him and his community to Christ.
- The Churches in North India would catch the vision of reaching this prominent Muslim community with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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19. IRAQI BIRADARI

Iraqi Biradari Muslims are found predominantly in South Asia particularly in India and Pakistan.





Despite their name they do not directly originate from modern day Iraq. Iraqi Biradaris are believed to have migrated to India from West Asia several centuries ago during periods of Islamic rule and expansion in South Asia.

Many families identify themselves as descendants of Arab settlers, Islamic Caliphs, saints, or scholars. This connection is often reflected in in their adherence to Islamic customs and traditions.

They are found in U.P (especially in cities like Jaunpur, Allahabad and Azamgarh) and other regions of North India.

Iraqi Biradari places a strong emphasis on maintaining familial ties, a sense of collective identity and traditions passed down through generations. The term Biradari denotes a kinship based social organizations emphasizing clan like cohesion often with shared lineage and customs.

Members of Iraqi Birardari historically were involved in various occupations including religious leadership, education and trade. Today they are represented in a wide array of professions.





- Iraqi Biradari who emphasize on kinship relationship may find their kinsmen redeemer in Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Lord of harvest to send more labourers to work among the Iraqi Biradaris.
- The Churches in U.P., would be burdened to reach Iraqi Biradari who are at their door steps.



20. JAT MUSLIMS

Jat Muslims are a group within the broader Jat community, traditionally associated with agriculture and rural life, primarily found in South Asia.





Historically Jats were known for their warrior and pastoralist heritage. While many Jats are
Hindus Sikhs, those who follow Islam are referred as Jat Muslims. They are prominent in certain parts of
North India including U.P and Haryana. Western U.P has one of higher concentration.
There are nearly 27 sub groups in Jat Muslim community.

Jat Muslims often share cultural, social and linguistic similarities with other Jats, although they are distinguished by their faith and some specific customs and traditions.

- The salvation of Jat Muslims when they get an opportunity to hear about the Great Shepherd Lord Jesus Christ.
- Believers from Jat community will be burdened to reach their own community of Jats but with different faith.
- The Missions working among neighbours may engage this significant people group.







21. KHANZADA MUSLIMS

Khanada Muslims are a community primarily found in Northern India particularly in the regions of Haryana, U.P. and Rajasthan. Khanzadas trace their origin to the Rajput warrior class who converted to Islam often during the medieval period. Historically they have notable legacy in areas like Mewat and were influential in Politics, society and military of their time.

Despite their Islamic faith, Khanzadas retain elements of Rajput culture, such as martial traditions, marriage customs and a strong sense of identity and pride in their ancestry.

Today Khanzadas are part of the broader Muslim community and play roles from politics to academia.





- Khanzadas that they may find their true identity in the Lord of hosts who fights for His children.
- The Believers from Rajput community to be concerned about this unreached neighbour community and take efforts to reach them.
- The opening of the eyes of Khanzadas to see that their real battle is with Satan who has come to steal, kill and destroy.
- Raising of workers by the Lord of harvest to engage this group of people







22. KASHMIRI MUSLIMS

Kashmiri Muslims are the predominant ethnic and religious group in the Kashmir valley. They primarily practice Islam, with the majority adhering to Sunni Islam, although there are smaller Shia and Sufi communities.

Kashmiri Muslims primariy speak Kashmiri (Koshur). Many are also are fluent in Urdu, Hindi and English. Arabic and Persian hold religious and historical significance. Islam was introduced to Kashmir in the 14th century by Persian and Central Asian Missionaries. Under Mughals Kashmir flourished as a centre of Art and culture.

The Jammu and Kashmir State was divided into two Union Territories namely Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in October 2019. After this Cross border terrorism is now reduced to a great extent. Besides people from Other States can buy lands in Kashmir now.





- The Kashmiri Muslims who are beautiful who live in a land of scenic beauty may find the creator of such a beautiful people and place.
- The missions working among neighbours to take advantage of the open door in Kashmir and engage the Kashmiri Muslims in a bigger way.
- The few missions and individuals working in Kashmir to have a fruitful ministry.
- The traditional Churches here established by the foreigners may be revived.
- The Tourism which is the biggest industry may attract many believers from other parts of India who can share the Gospel to the Kashmiris.



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23. KUNJRA MUSLIMS

The Kunjra, also known as Rayeen, are a Muslim community concentrated in states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and West Bengal They are known for their traditional occupation as vegetable and fruit sellers. They primarily follow Sunni Islam. Historically, the Kunjra have been considered a lower-caste group within the Muslim community. They have faced social and economic discrimination.

In recent years, there have been efforts to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Kunjra community through various government initiatives and social welfare programs. However, they still face challenges in terms of education, employment, and social inclusion.

PRAY FOR

• kunjra Muslims to have a personal encounter with Jesus Christ who does not discriminate people on the basis caste, creed and colour.





- Believers who come across Kunjra Muslims while buying vegetables and fruits may share the Gospel to them.
- The Christian missions to make use of Govt. initiative and start educational institutions and income generating projects to provide education and employment opportunities to the Kunjra Muslims.
- The Lord of harvest to raise more workers to work among them.

24. MALKANA MUSLIMS

The Malkana are a community in India, primarily found in the state of Bihar. Historically, they were a Hindu community, but many converted to Islam during the medieval period particularly during the Delhi Sultanate period.





However, there are still Hindu Malkana communities. They are mainly concentrated in the Shahabad district of Bihar.

Malkanas were primariy engaged in agriculture owning cultivating land. As landlords they were involved in farming cereals, pulses and cash crops. In modern times have entered government services including police, administrative roles and education. In urban areas work as construction workers, retailers and transportation.

The Malkana have a distinct culture, influenced by both Hindu and Islamic traditions. They have their own language and customs. Historically, the Malkana have been a marginalized community, facing social and economic discrimination.

- The salvation of Malkana Muslims that they may find a Saviour who loves them and would not neglect them.
- Christian missions working in Bihar would identify this community and reach them with the Good News.
- The Churches and believers in Bihar would meet them in the market place and share the gospel to them.
- The Lord of harvest to raise more workers to work among the Malkana Muslims.







25. MANIHAR MUSLIM

The Manihar are a Muslim community primarily found in North India, particularly in states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. They are known for their traditional occupation of making and selling glass, lac, or ivory bangles., "Manihar," comes from the words "mani" (precious stone) and "kara" (maker), reflecting their traditional occupation. They are Sunni Muslims. The Manihar have distinct cultural practices, including their own language and customs.

In recent years, there have been efforts to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Manihar community through various government initiatives and social welfare programs. However, they still face challenges in terms of social inclusion and economic empowerment. While they have a rich cultural heritage, many Manihar face socio-economic challenges, particularly in terms of education and employment.





- Manihar Muslims who are makers of precious stone bangles may come to the saving knowledge of their Maker.
- Christian Missions to start educational institutions and income generating projects to offer education and employment to Manihar Muslims.
- The Churches and believers of North India to get the vision to reach this unreached community.
- More workers to be raised by God to identify and share the Good News to them.



26. MAPPILA MUSLIMS

The Mappila Muslims, also known as Malabar Muslims, are a significant Muslim community primarily found in the Kerala and Lakshadweep regions of India.



They have a rich history and unique cultural identity. The Mappila community has diverse origins, including Arab traders who settled in the region, local Hindu converts to Islam, and their descendants.



They have a distinct culture that blends Islamic traditions with local Kerala customs and traditions. Their language, Mappila Malayalam, is a unique dialect of Malayalam. They primarily follow Sunni Islam, with a strong emphasis on Sufism. The Mappila community has played a significant role in the history of Kerala, particularly in trade, education, and social reforms. They have also been involved in various historical movements and struggles. Like many other minority communities in India, the Mappila Muslims have faced historical and contemporary challenges, including discrimination and socio-economic disparities.

- The salvation of Mappila Muslims. They are exposed to Gospel message through Churches in Kerala. God should give them a receptive heart.
- The groups who are trying to share the Good News to them. Claim the promise of Isaiah 55:10,11.
- The Churches in Kerala to be revived that they may pose a great challenge to the Mappila Muslims
- The converts from Mappila community to be strengthened in the Lord and act as strong witnesses for Jesus Christ.



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27. ROWTHER MUSLIMS

The Rowther (also spelled as Irauttar, Rawther, Ravuttar, Ravuttar, Ravuthar, Ravuthamar) are a distinct Muslim community primarily found in the south Indian states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Rowther means a Horse soldier. Those who had come to trade in Horses were called Rowthers. Many Rowthers trace their ancestry to Arab traders who settled in South India during the medieval period. Over time, some local Hindu communities also converted to Islam and integrated into the Rowther community. The Rowthers have a strong warrior tradition, often serving as soldiers and officials in various kingdoms. They primarily speak Tamil and adhere to Sunni Islam.

The Rowther community has a diverse socioeconomic background, ranging from affluent businessmen to farmers and laborers.





They have made significant contributions to various fields, including business, education, and politics. The Rowthers have a rich cultural heritage, including unique customs, traditions, and festivals. They have played a vital role in shaping the social and cultural landscape of South India.

- Rowthers who are warrior class and have served under several Tamil Kings. Pray for their salvation as they come to know the King of Kings who defeated Satan and is now seated on the throne.
- The missions and the missionaries working among them that they may present the gospel in innovative ways.
- The Tamil Churches which are so numerous to engage this unreached group and lead them to Christ. Muslims in Tamilnadu are friendly with the Christians. The Church should make use of this and present the gospel in a friendly way.
- Believers who are businessmen to engage the Rowthers majority of whom are doing business.



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28. MEO MUSLIMS

The Meo Muslims are an ethnic group primarily residing in the Mewat region of North India, which spans across parts of Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. They have a distinct cultural and linguistic identity, with their own dialect of Haryanvi. While there are various theories about their origins, many believe they are descendants of Hindu Rajputs who converted to Islam during the Delhi Sultanate period. The Meo Muslims primarily live in rural areas and are engaged in agriculture, livestock rearing, and allied activities. They have a rich cultural heritage, blending Islamic traditions with local customs and beliefs. Despite their resilience and cultural richness, the Meo Muslims often face socio-economic challenges, including poverty, illiteracy, and lack of access to basic amenities.





In recent years, there have been efforts to uplift the Meo community through various government initiatives and social welfare programs. However, they continue to face challenges in terms of education, health, and economic opportunities

- Meo Muslims who are facing poverty, illiteracy and lack basic amenities that they may come to the Shepherd of their souls who can lead them to fullness.
- Christian NGOs to start schools, Hospitals and Income generating projects among Meo Muslims.
- Churches and believers in Haryana, Rajasthan and U.P will have the vision to reach Meo Muslims.
- Missions in North India will find innovative ways to share the good news to them.



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29. MUGHAL MUSLIMS

The Mughals were a Muslim dynasty of Turco-Mongol origin that ruled much of India from the 16th to the 18th century. They established a powerful empire that left a significant cultural and architectural legacy. The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur in 1526. The empire reached its peak under Akbar the Great, who expanded its territories and implemented policies of religious tolerance. Mughal Muslims are found in large numbers in Delhi, Agra, Lucknow, Aligarh and Meerut.

A new language called Urdu emerged during this period mixing Persian language with Arabic and Hindi.

The Mughals made significant contributions to Indian art, architecture, literature, and music.





They built magnificent structures like the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort. The Mughals left a lasting impact on Indian history, culture, and society.

- Mughal Muslims to come to the saving knowledge of Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings.
- The Urdu speaking believers will have the burden to reach them
- Dreams and visions to be seen by the Mughal Muslims and come to Christ
- Missions working among neighbours would identify them and engage them.
- The Lord of harvest to send more labourers to harvest these precious souls.







30. PATHAN MUSLIMS

The term "Pathan" is often used interchangeably with "Pashtun," referring to an ethnic group primarily residing in northwestern Pakistan and southern and eastern Afghanistan. The term "Pathan" can sometimes be used in a broader sense to refer to any Muslim from the Indian subcontinent with Pashtun ancestry.

They are known for their distinct culture, language (Pashto), and strong tribal traditions.

The Pathans have a long-standing warrior tradition, often associated with bravery and honor. The vast majority of Pathans are Sunni Muslims. They have a rich cultural heritage, including poetry, music, and traditional handicrafts.





- Pathans to know the Lord of hosts personally and surrender their lives to Him.
- Workers to be raised to show the Pathans that Jesus is the true warrior who has won a decisive victory over sin, Satan and death.
- the Churches and believers in North India will be burdened by the Lord to reach the Pathans.
- the Mission working among Afghan refugees may encourage the believers among them to reach the Pathans.